

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jenni Moen on 17 December 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable storage medium including computer executable code for management and configuration of remote agents, comprising:

code for providing at least one web service by a management device;

code for providing an agent metadata service on each of a plurality of remote agents, each of the plurality of remote agents separated from the management device by a firewall, each agent metadata service operable to retrieve agent metadata residing on the remote agent based on one or more detection parameters;

code for receiving, by the at least one web service, the agent metadata from the plurality of remote agents, the agent metadata transmitted to the web service of the management device through the firewall; and

code for detecting, by the at least one web service, at least one remote agent on a network based on the agent metadata;

code for translating a schema associated with the at least one remote agent into a management side representation compatible with a manager repository;

code for storing the management side representation of the schema associated with the at least one remote agent and the agent metadata in a manager repository; and

code for using the at least one web service on the management device to perform at least one of managing and configuring the at least one remote agent based on at least one web service, wherein the at least one of managing and configuring that is performed by the management device runs across the firewall

Claim 9 has been amended to clarify that the computer readable storage medium is a non-transitory (tangible) medium and not a carrier wave or signal per se. Attorney has gone on record as disavowing coverage of signals by this term.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-16 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the examiner agrees with the applicant as to the novelty and non-obviousness of the invention, in light of the claims and the specification's definitions of agent, metadata and web service.
3. The claims are drawn towards a method and system of managing and configuring web agents through a firewall using web services. None of the known art teaches or suggests the particular combination of agent detection, schema translation and storage, and configuration

through the firewall in the manner and detail included in the claims. The combination is novel and non-obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MELVIN H. POLLACK whose telephone number is (571)272-3887. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava can be reached on (571) 272-7304. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Rupal D. Dharia/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2400

/M. H. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2445